

From: MERCANTINI@EMS.ATT.COM
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue. Apr 1, 2003 3:34 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

I can't believe I even have to send this e-mail. this

is a no-brainer, why do you think these laws were put into place to begin with?

Sincerely,

David Mercantini
2 Independence Way
Princeton, New Jersey **08540**

From: m_fikes@hotmail.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue. Apr 1, 2003 3:37 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

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Sincerely,

Michael Fikes
1420 Richmond Ave Apt. 1034
Houston, **Texas** 77006

From: m_fikes@hotmail.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Tue. Apr 1, 2003 3:37 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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From: russdaren@yahoo.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Apr 1, 2003 3:42 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

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Sincerely

RUSSELL DARENSBOURG JR
255 **4TH ST** STE 405
OAKLAND, California 94607-4301

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To: Michael Copps
Date: Tue. Apr 1, 2003 3:42 PM
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255 4TH ST STE 405
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MARCEDES SPAIN
1900 Grandview Blvd
Sioux City, Iowa 51104-3833

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john dugan
2210 stockton st.
Suite 100
SF, California 94133

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8661 MADERA COURT
MANASSAS PARK, Virginia 20111-2337

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